

## Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SAJ-01 SAM-01 /081 W  
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R 131659Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4662

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

US MISSION EC BRUSSEL

AMCONGEN RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCON PORTO ALEGRE

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 07266

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: E:AB, BE

SUBJECT: SPINOLA EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW TO BELGIAN CATHOLIC PAPER

REF: BRUSSELS 07243

SUMMARY. CATHOLIC DUTCH LANGUAGE DAILY HET BELANG VAN LIMBURG  
AUGUST 13 CARRIES EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH FORMER PORTUGUESE  
GENERAL ANTONIO DE SPINOLA. IN INTERVIEW SPINOLA INDICATES HIS  
DETERMINATION TO ONE DAY RESUME HIS POLITICAL ROLE IN PORTUGAL,  
WARNS WESTERN COUNTRIES AND EC PARTICULARLY, AGAINST GRANTING  
SUPPORT FOR PRESENT REGIME AND CRITICIZES WESTERN CONCESSIONS  
MADE AT HELSINKI.

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END SUMMARY.

1. FORMER GENERAL SPINOLA GAVE INTERVIEW AT HIS HOTEL RESIDENCE ON COPACABANA IN RIO DE JANEIRO TO GUGO CAMPS, INTERNATIONAL REPORTER FOR HET BELANG VAN LIMBURG, DUTCH LANGUAGE DAILY WHOSE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, HUBERT LEYLEN, IS SENATOR IN FLEMISH SOCIAL CHRISTIAN PARTY (CVP). SPINOLA EXPRESSES DISENCHANTMENT WITH REVOLUTION IN PORTUGAL SAYING THAT SO FAR PEOPLE HAVE BEEN GREAT VICTIMS OF TYRANNY. HE SAID REVOLUTION HAD DEPARTED FROM ORIGINAL GOAL WHICH WAS TO BRING ABOUT WESTERN DEMOCRACY.

2. SPINOLA DODGED QUESTIONS ABOUT HIS CURRENT ROLE AS SYMBOL OF REVOLUTION AND HIS PLANS FOR RETURN TO PORTUGAL. HE SAID THAT PORTUGAL NEEDS A REGIME TO STOP EXPLOITATION OF PEOPLE AND ONLY PEOPLE CAN CHOOSE MEANS TO ACHIEVE ESTABLISHED GOALS. HE LATER REAFFIRMED HIS DETERMINATION TO ONE DAY RESUME ROLE IN PORTUGUESE POLITICS.

3. ON ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL, SPINOLA SAID THAT SUPPORT BY THE EC NOW WOULD BE MISTAKE AND WOULD INCLINE DICTATORSHIP EVEN MORE TO SOVIET IMPERIALISM. HE SAID THIS WOULD MEAN COMMUNIST PROGRESS HAD BEEN ACHIEVED WITH WESTERN SUPPORT. ON CONDITIONS FOR WESTERN EUROPEAN AID SPINOLA WARNED THAT SITUATION WILL NOT CHANGE SIMPLY BY CHANGING PERSONNEL WHO ARE COMPROMISED WITH CURRENT REGIME. SPEAKING ON CUMMUNISM IN GENERAL, SPINOLA CRITICIZED RECENT WESTERN CONCESSIONS MADE AT HELSINKI. HE SAYS WESTERN LEADERS HAVE NOT KEPT IN MIND LESSONS OF WORLD WAR II CITING FIRST YALTA AND NOW HELSINKI. HE SAID GENERAL DEGAULLE WAS ONLY ONE WHO UNDERSTOOD NATURE OF THIS DANGER.

4. IN ACCOMPANYING BACKGROUND ARTICLE, CAMPS INDICATES THAT THIS IS ONLY THIRD OR FOURTH INTERVIEW SPINOLA HAS GIVEN IN EXILE. HE STRESSES GENERAL SPINOLA IS IN GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION AND GAINED IMPRESSION THAT SPINOLA IS TRYING TO SMUGGLE SOME OF HIS WRITINGS INTO PORTUGAL.  
RENNER

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